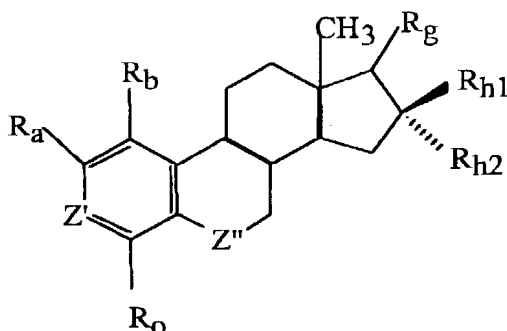


Amendments to the Claims

Please amend the claims as indicated below.

1. (Presently Amended) A compound of the general formula:



wherein:

a) ~~R_b and R_o are independently -H, unless otherwise noted to be -Cl, -Br, -I, -F, -CN, lower alkyl, -OH, -OR₆, -CH₂-OH, -NH₂, or N(R₆)(R₇), wherein R₆ and R₇ are independently hydrogen or an alkyl or branched alkyl with up to 10 carbons;~~

b) ~~R_a is -OCH₃, -N₃, -C≡N, -CH₂-C≡R, -C≡C-R, -C-CH-R, -R-C-CH₂, -C≡CH, -CH₂-C≡N, -C(O)-OR₃, -O-R, -R-R₁, -O-R-R₁, -OR(O)R, -OR(O)R₁, -R(O)R, -R(O)R₁, -NHC(O)R₆, -NRC(O)R₆, -NH₂, or N(R₆)(R₇), wherein R₆ and R₇ are independently hydrogen or an alkyl or branched alkyl with up to 10 carbons, or a hetero group wherein the hetero group may have more than one hetero atom and may be substituted, where R is H or a straight or branched alkyl with up to 10 carbons or aralkyl, and in any position F may be substituted in or on the carbon chain, and R₁ is -OH, -NH₂, -Cl, -Br, -I, -F or CF₃ when R₁ is terminal;~~

c) ~~Z' is >COH, unless otherwise noted to be >C-OAc;~~

d) ~~>C-R_g is >CH₂, >C=O, >C=N-OH, >C(R₃)OH, >C=N-OR₃, >C(H)-NH₂, >C(H)-NHR₃, >C(H)-NR₃R₄, or >C(H)-C(O)-R₃, where each R₃ and R₄ is independently an alkyl or branched alkyl with up to 10 carbons or aralkyl; or~~

~~R_g is i) an alkyl of 1-10 carbon atoms that is straight chain or branched, ii) an alkenyl of 1-10 carbon atoms that is straight chain or branched having one or more double bonds at any position from C to Z_o, iii) an alkenyl group of 1-10 carbon atoms that is straight chain or branched having one or more triple bonds at any position where chemically possible, iv) a~~

mono or dialkyl amino group wherein each alkyl chain has from 1-10 carbon atoms and is straight chain or branched, v) $(CH_2)_n-CF_2-$, $(CH_2)_n-CR_1$ or $(CH_2)_n-CF_3$ wherein $n=0-10$ carbons, or vi) H, and wherein any of i-iv are optionally substituted with an aromatic or heteroaromatic group or optionally substituted with a heterogroup and wherein R_g is either in the α or β position, wherein R_g is not -OH; or

R_g is R_{g1} and R_{g2} , and wherein R_{g1} may be present or absent and when present is -H, an alkyl, alkenyl, or alkynyl of 1-10 carbon atoms that is straight chain or branched and is optionally substituted, and R_{g2} is a hetero group, wherein when R_{g1} is absent the heterogroup is bonded to the 17-position with a double bond, and wherein either R_{g1} or R_{g2} can be in the β position with the other group in the α position, and R_1 is -OH, -NH₂, -Cl, -Br, -I, -F or CF₃ when R_1 is terminal, and wherein R_{g1} or R_{g2} are not together -H and -OH;

e) R_{h1} and R_{h2} are independently H, ~~unless otherwise noted to be a straight or branched chain alkyl, alkenyl or alkynyl with up to 10 carbons that is unsubstituted, or substituted with one or more groups selected from a hetero functionality that is either not substituted, mono-substituted or multiply substituted with an alkyl, alkenyl or alkynyl chain up to 10 carbons; a halo functionality (F, Cl, Br or I); an aromatic group optionally substituted with at least one hetero, halo or alkyl; or~~ R_{h1} and R_{h2} are independently a group containing at least one aliphatic or aromatic group optionally substituted with at least one hetero, halo or alkyl; and

f) Z' is $>CH_2$;

~~and wherein all monosubstituted substituents have either an α or β configuration;~~

~~and wherein lower alkyl is defined as a carbon chain having 1-10 carbon atoms which may be branched or unbranched.~~

2. (Presently amended) The compound of Claim 1, wherein:

~~R_a is -OCH₃; and~~

R_{g1} and R_{g2} are each H.

3. (Presently amended) The compound of Claim 1, wherein:
 R_a is $-\text{OCH}_3$; and
 R_b and R_o are both $-\text{H}$;
 Z' is $>\text{C}-\text{OH}$;
 Z'' is $>\text{CH}_2$;
 R_g is $=\text{CH}_2$; and
 R_{h1} and R_{h2} are both $-\text{H}$.
4. (Presently amended) The compound of Claim 1, wherein:
 ~~R_a is $-\text{OCH}_3$;~~
 R_{g1} is absent; and
 R_{g2} is $=\text{NOH}$.
5. (Cancelled).
6. (Presently amended) The compound of Claim 1, wherein:
 ~~R_a is $-\text{OCH}_3$;~~
 R_{g1} is $-\text{H}$; and
 R_{g2} is $-\text{NH}_2$.
7. (Presently amended) The compound of Claim 1, wherein:
 ~~R_a is $-\text{OCH}_3$;~~
 Z' is $>\text{C}-\text{OAc}$;
 R_{g1} is $-\text{H}$; and
 R_{g2} is $-\text{OAc}$.
8. (Presently amended) The compound of Claim 1, wherein:
 ~~R_a is $-\text{OCH}_3$;~~
 R_{g1} is $-\text{H}$; and
 R_{g2} is $-\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_3$.

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9. (Presently amended) The compound of Claim 1, wherein:

~~R_a is -OCH₃;~~

R_{g1} is -H; and

R_{g2} is -CH₃.

10. (Presently amended) The compound of Claim 1, wherein:

~~R_a is -OCH₃; and~~

R_g is =CHCH₂CH₃.

11. (Presently amended) The compound of Claim 1, wherein:

~~R_a is -OCH₃;~~

R_{g1} is -H; and

R_{g2} is -NHCH₂CH₂CH₃.

12. (Presently amended) The compound of Claim 1, wherein:

~~R_a is -OCH₃; and~~

R_g is =CHCH₃.

13. (Presently amended) The compound of Claim 1, wherein:

~~R_a is -OCH₃;~~

R_{g1} is -H; and

R_{g2} is -CH₂CH₃.

14. (Presently amended) The compound of Claim 1, wherein:

~~R_a is -OCH₃; and~~

R_g is =N-NH-(SO₂)-C₆H₄-*p*-CH₃.

15. (Presently amended) The compound of Claim 1, wherein:

~~R_g is -OCH₃;~~

R_g1 is H; and

R_g2 is -COOH.

16-87. (Canceled).

89. (Presently amended) The compound of Claim 1, wherein :

~~R_g is -OCH₃;~~

R_g1 is H; and

R_g2 is -CH₂OH.

90-92. (Canceled).